THE WONDERFVL DISCOVERIE OF THE

Witchcrafts of *Margaret* and *Phillip Flower*, daughters of *Ioan Flower* neere *Beuer Caſtle*: Executed at Lincolne, *March* 11. 1618.

Who were ſpecially arraigned and condemned before Sir *Henry Hobart*, and Sir *Edward Bromley*, Iudges of Aſſiſe, for confeſſing themſelues actors in the deſtruction of *Henry* Lord *Roſſe*, with their damnable practiſes againſt others the Children of the Right Honourable FRANCIS Earle of *Rutland*.

Together with the ſeuerall Examinations and Confeſſions of *Anne Baker*, *Ioan Willimot*, and *Ellen Greene*, Witches in *Leiceſterſhire*

Printed at London by *G. Eld* for *I. Barnes*, dweliing in the long Walke neere Chriſt-Church. 1619.

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THE WONDERFVLL Discouery of the Witch-crafts of *Margaret* and *Phillip Flower*, Daughters of *Ioane Flower*, by *Beuer-Castle*, and executed at *Lincolne*, the 11. of *March*, 1618.

MY meaning is not to make any contentious Arguments about the discourses, distinction or definition of Witch-craft, the power of Diuells, the nature of Spirits, the force of Charmes, the secrets of Incantation, and such like; because the Scriptures are full of prohibitions to this purpose, and proclaimes death to the presumptuous attemp-

ters of the same: Besides, both Princes (yea our owne learned and most iudicious King) Philosophers, Poets, Chronologers, Historiographers, and many worthy Writers, haue concurred and concluded in this; that diuers impious and facinorous mischiefes haue beene effectuated through the instruments of the Diuell, by permission of God, so that the Actors of the same haue carried away the opinion of the world, to doe that which they did by Witchcraft, or at least to be esteemed Witches, for bringing such and such things to passe: For howsoeuer the learned haue charactred delinquents in this kinde by titles of sundry sortes, and most significant attributes; as *Pythonissæ* dealing with artificiall charmes; *Magi* anciently reputed so, for extraordinary wisedome and knowledge in the secrets of symples and Hearbs; *Chaldei*, famous for Astronomy and Astrology; *Negromancers*, for practising to raise dead bodies, and by them to foretell euents of the earth; *Geomantici*, for conuersing with Spirits, and vsing Inchantations;

Geneth-

Genethliaci, for presuming on the calculating of Natiuities, or if you will, assuming the credit of Figure-casting; *Ventriloqui*, for speaking with hallow voyces, as if they were possessed with Diuells; *Venefici*, for dealing with poyson, and eyther killing or curing that way: For you must vnderstand howeuer the Professors aforesaid practise murther and mischiefe, yet many times they pretend cures and preseruation; with many others, carrying the shew of great learning and admired knowledge; yet haue they all but one familar tearme with vs in English called Witches. As for the conceit of wisemen or wise women, they are all meerely cosoners and deceiuers; so that if they make you beleeue that by their meanes you shall heare of things lost or stolne, it is either done by Confederacy, or put off by protraction to deceiue you of your money.

Onely (as I said before) there bee certaine men and women growne in yeares, and ouer-growne with Malancholly and Atheisme, who out of a malicious dispositi-

on againſt their betters or others thriuing by them; but moſt times from a heart-burning deſire of reuenge, hauing entertayned ſome impreſſion of diſpleaſure, and vnkindneſſe, ſtudy nothing but miſchiefe and exoticke practiſes of loathſome Artes and Sciences: yet I muſt needs ſay, that ſometimes the fained reputation of wiſedome, cunning, and to be reputed a dangerous and skilfull perſon, hath ſo preuayled with diuers, that they haue taken vpon them indeed to know more then God euer afforded any creature, and to performe no leſſe then the Creator both of Heauen and earth; making you beleeue with *Medea*, that they can raiſe tempeſts, turn the Sun into blood, pul the moone out of her Spheare, and ſaile ouer the Sea in a cockle ſhell, according to the Poet:

Flectere ſi nequeam Superos, Acheronta mouebo.

If Art do fayle to moue the Gods
conſent vnto my minde:
I will the Diuells raiſe, to doe
what they can in their kinde.

But

But howſoeuer, ſpeciall perſons are tranſported with an opinion of their owne worth, and preuailing in this kinde, yet by lamentable experience we know too wel, what monſtrous effects haue bin produced, euen to the horror of the hearers, and damnation of their owne ſoules by ſuch kinde of people: For as it is in the tale of the enuious man, that put out one of his eyes to haue his companion looſe both; ſo fareth it with them and worſe, to giue away their ſoules to bee reuenged of their aduerſaries bodies, wherein the monſtrous ſubtilty of the Diuell is ſo apparant, that it is wonderfull one way to relate, and lamentable another way to obſerue the ſame. For no ſooner ſhall ſuch motiues poyſon the inward conceite or apprehenſion of ſuch damnable Caytiffes: But then ſteppeth forth the Diuell, and not onely ſheweth them the way, but preſcribeth the manner of effecting the ſame, with facility and eaſineſſe, aſſuring that hee himſelfe will attend them in ſome familiar ſhape of Rat, Cat, Toad,

Bird, Cricket, &c: yea effectuate whatsoeuer they shall demaund or desire, and for their better assurance and corroboration of their credulity, they shall haue palpable and forcible touches of sucking, piching, kissing, closing, colling and such like: wherevpon, without any feare of God or Man, knowledge of Christ, hope of redemption, confidence of mercy, or true beleefe that there is any other thing to bee looked after but this present World; according to that Atheisticall position of *Epicurus*.

Ede, bibe, lude, post mortem nulla voluptas.

Eat, drink, sport, play and take thy pleasures rest:
For after death who knowes what shall be best.

They admit of those execrable conditions of commutation of soules for the entertayning of the spirits, and so fall to their abhominable practises, continuing in the same till God laugh them to scorne, and will by no meanes suffer them to abuse his holy name nor deceiue others by their prophane liues

any

any longer: VVitneſſe for the generall thoſe infinit Treatiſes of many of them conuinced by Law, and condemned to death, to the fearefull example of all carnall and hypocriticall Chriſtians: but more eſpecially you may ouer-looke (if you pleaſe) that learned Diſcourſe of *Dæmonologie*, compoſed in forme of a Dialogue, by the high and mighty Prince, IAMES by the grace of God, King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Ireland*, *&c.* and printed (as I take it) according to the coppy of *Edenburgh*, 1603. As alſo a Treatiſe of Witch-craft made by that learned Mr. *Alexander Roberts* Preacher at Kings-line in Norfolke, 1615. vppon the diſcouery of the witch-crafts of *Mary Smith*, wife of *Henry Smith* Glouer, with her vocall contract betweene the Diuell and her ſelfe, in ſolemne tearmes, and ſuch like impoſturing filthineſſe: with many hurts and miſchiefes which thereby ſhe procured: As alſo a certaine diſcouery 1611. made by *Iohn Cotta* Doctor of Phiſicke in Northamton of Empericks, women about ſicke perſons,

Quack-

Quackſaluers and Fugitiues, which ſeeme to worke iuggling wonders; Surgeons, Apothecaries, practiſers by Spels, the true diſcouery of Witch-craft, eſpecially in the ſicke, with many inſtances of that kinde: Wizards, and ſeruants of Phyſitians, who may bee called miniſtring helpers: To this hee hath added the Methodian learned deceiuer, or heretike Phyſitian: Aſtrologers, *Ephemerides*-maſters, Coniecters by vrine, Trauellers: and laſt of all, the true Artiſt his right deſcription and election. As alſo a Dialogue concerning Witches and Witch-craft, compoſed by *George Gifford*, Miniſter of Gods Word in Maldon, 1603: wherein the cunning of the Diuell is diſcouered, both concerning the deceiuing of Witches, and ſeducing of others into many great errors: As alſo an ancient Diſcourſe of the fearefull practiſes of foure notorious French Witches, with the manner of their ſtrange execution. As alſo the ſeuerall and damnable practiſes of Mother *Sutton*, of Milton Mills in the County of Bedford, and *Mary Sutton* her Daughter,

who

who were arraigned, condemned and executed for the same: As also, 1612. the wonderfull discouery of Witches in Lancashire, being 19 in number, notorious for many infamed actions, and conuicted before Sir *Iames Altham*, and Sir *Edward Bromley*, Barons of the Exchequer, together with the Arraignment and tryall of *Iennet Preston* at Yorke, with her fearefull execution for the murthering of Mr. *Lister* by Witch-craft, with infinite other relations concerning the generall conuiction of Witches, and their practises, and condemnation of the particular opinion of some men, who suppose there be none at all, or at least, that they doe not personally or truely effect such things as are imputed vnto them, and which out of some dangerous impression of Melancholy, Vaine-glory, or some other diseased operation, they assume to themselues by reason of a former contract with the Diuel. And so much for the certaintie of Story, and fearfulnesse of the truth concerning the damnable practises of Witches and cunning of the Diuell to deceiue them.

But yet becauſe the mind of man may bee carried away with many idle coniectures, either that women confeſſed theſe things by extremity of torture, or that ancient examples are by this time forgotten (although the particulars are vpon record, for the benefit of all poſterity:) Or that they were beſides themſelues, or ſubiect to ſome weake deuiſe or other, rather to bring in queſtion the integrity of *Iuſtice*; then to make odious the liues of ſuch horrible offenders. I haue preſumed to preſent on the Stage of verity for the good of my Country & the loue of truth, the late wofull Tragedy of the deſtruction of the *Right Honourable* the *Earle* of *Rutlands* Children, who to his eternall prayſe proceeded yet both religiouſly and charitably againſt the offenders, leauing their proſecution to the Law, and ſubmitting himſelfe and deplorable caſe to the prouidence of God, who afflicteth his beſt ſeruants with puniſhments, and many times, ſendeth extraordinary vengeance as well on the innocent, as the bad deſeruer, to manifeſt his glory:

There-

The right Honorabell FRAVNCIS MANNERS
Earle of Rutland Baron Roſs of Ham:
lake Beluoire and Truſsbutt, and Knight
of the Honora ble order of the Garter.

Therefore by way of Caution, I aduiſe thee (gentle Reader) whatſoeuer thou art, to take heede how thou doeſt eyther deſpiſe the power of God in his Creatures, or vilipend the ſubtilty and fury of the Diuell, as Gods inſtrument of vengeance, conſidering that Truth in deſpight of Gaine-ſayers will preuaile, according to that principle: *Magna eſt veritas & prævalebit.*

The Story followes.

AFter the Right Honourable Sir *Francis Manners* ſucceeded his Brother in the Earledome of Rutland: and ſo not onely tooke poſſeſſion of Beauer Caſtle, but of all other his Demeanes, Lordſhips, Townes, Mannors, Lands, and Reuennues appropriate to the ſame Earledome: hee proceeded ſo honourably in the courſe of his life, as neyther diſplacing Tenants, diſcharging Seruants, nor denying the acceſſe of the poore, but welcoming of ſtrangers, and performing all the duties of a noble Lord, that

hee fastned as it were vnto himselfe the loue and good opinion of the Countrey, wherein he walked the more cheerefully and remarkable, because his Honorable Countesse marched arme in arme with him in the same race: So that Beauer Castle was a continuall Pallace of entertainment, and a daily receptacle for all sorts both rich and poore, especially such ancient people as neighboured the same: amongst whom one *Ioan Flower* with her Daughters *Margaret* and *Phillip* were not onely relieued at the first from thence, but quickly entertained as Chair-women, and *Margaret* admitted as a continuall dweller in the Castle, looking both to the Poultrey abroad, and the wash-house within dores: In which life they continued with equall correspondency, till something was discouered to the noble Lady, which concerned the misdemeanour of these women. And although such Honourable Persons shall not want of all sorts of people, either to bring thē newes, tales, reports, or to serue their turne in all offices whatsoeuer; so that it may well

be

bee ſaid of them, as it is of great Kings and Princes, that they haue large hands, wide eares, and piercing ſights to diſcouer the vnſwept corners of their remoteſt confines, to reach euen to their furtheſt borders, and to vnderſtand the ſecrets of their meaneſt Subiects: yet in this matter, neither were they buſie-bodyes, flatterers, malicious Politians, vnderminers, nor ſupplanters one of anothers good fortune: but went ſimply to worke, as regarding the honor of the Earle and his Lady, and ſo by degrees gaue light to their vnderſtanding to apprehend their complaints. Firſt, that *Ioane Flower* the Mother was a monſtrous malicious woman, full of oathes, curſes, and imprecations irreligious, and for any thing they ſaw by her, a plaine Atheiſt; beſides, of late dayes her very countenance was eſtranged, her eyes were fiery and holow, her ſpeech fell and enuious, her demeanour ſtrange and exoticke, and her conuerſation ſequeſtred; ſo that the whole courſe of her life gaue great ſuſpition that ſhe was a notorious Witch: yea, ſome of her

neighbours dared to affirme that ſhee dealt with familiar ſpirits, and terrified them all with curſes and threatning of reuenge, if there were neuer ſo little cauſe of diſpleaſure and vnkindneſſe. Concerning *Margaret*, that ſhee often reſorted from the Caſtle to her Mother, bringing ſuch prouiſion as they thought was vnbefitting for a ſeruant to purloyne, and comming at ſuch vnſeaſonable houres, that they could not but coniecture ſome miſchiefe between them, and that their extraordinary riot & expences tended both to rob the Lady, and to maintaine certaine debauſht and baſe company which frequented this *Ioane Flowers* houſe the mother, and ſpecially her yongeſt daughter. Concerning *Phillip*, that ſhe was lewdly tranſported with the loue of one *Th: Sympſon*, who preſumed to ſay that ſhe had bewitched him: for hee had no power to leaue her, and was as hee ſuppoſed, maruellouſly altred both in minde and body ſince her acquainted company. Theſe complaints beganne many yeares before eyther their conuiction, or publique ap-

apprehenſion : Notwithſtanding, ſuch was the Honour of this Earle and his Lady ; ſuch was the cunning of this monſtrous woman in obſeruation towards them ; ſuch was the ſubtilty of the Diuell to bring his purpoſes to paſſe ; ſuch was the pleaſure of God to make tryall of his ſeruants ; and ſuch was the effect of a damnable womans wit and malicious enuy, that all things were carried away in the ſmooth Channell of liking and good entertaynment on euery ſide, vntill the Earle by degrees conceiued ſome miſlike againſt her ; and ſo, peraduenture eſtranged himſelfe from that familiarity and accuſtomed conferences hee was wont to haue with her : vntill one *Peate* offered her ſome wrong ; againſt whom ſhe complained, but found that my Lord did not affect her clamours and malicious information : vntill one Mr. *Vauaſor* abandoned her company, as eyther ſuſpicious of her lewd life, or diſtaſted with his owne miſliking of ſuch baſe and poore Creatures, whom no body loued but the Earles houſhold :

houſhold; vntill the Counteſſe miſconceiuing of her Daughter *Margaret*, and diſcouering ſome vndecencies both in her life and neglect of her buſineſſe, diſcharged her from lying any more in the Caſtle, yet gaue her forty ſhillings, a bolſter, and a mattreſſe of wooll: commanding her to goe home, vntill the ſlacknes of her repairing to the Caſtle, as ſhe was wont, did turne her loue and liking toward this Honorable Earle and his Family into hate and rancor: whervpon deſpighted to bee ſo neglected, and exprobrated by her neighbours for her Daughters caſting out of dores, and other conceiued diſpleaſures, ſhee grew paſt all ſhame and womanhood, and many times curſed them all that were the cauſe of this diſcontentment, and made her ſo loathſome to her former familiar friends and beneficiall acquaintance.

When the Diuell perceiued the inficious diſpoſition of this wretch, and that ſhee and her Daughters might eaſily be made inſtruments to enlarge his Kingdome, and bee as it were the executioners of his vengeance;

not

not caring whether it lighted vpon innocents or no, he came more nearer vnto them, and in plaine termes, to come quickly to the purpose, offered them his seruice, and that in such a manner, as they might easily command what they pleased: For hee would attend you in such pretty formes of dog, cat, or Rat, that they should neither be terrified, nor any body else suspicious of the matter. Vpon this they agree; and (as it should seeme) giue away their soules for the seruice of such Spirits, as he had promised them: which filthy conditions were ratified with abhominable kisses, and an odious sacrifice of bloud, not leauing out certaine charmes and coniurations, with which the Diuell deceiued them, as though nothing could bee done without ceremony, and a solemnitie of orderly ratification. By this time doth Sathan triumph, and goeth away satisfied to haue caught such fish in the net of his illusions: By this time are those women Diuels incarnate, and grow proud againe in their cunning and artificiall power to doe what mischiefe they listed: By

this time they haue learnt the manner of inchantations, Spels, and Charmes : By this time they kill what Cattle they liſt, and vnder the couert of flattery and familiar entertainment, keepe hidden the ſtinging Serpent of malice, and a venomous inclination to miſchiefe : By this time is the Earle and his Family threatned, and muſt feele the burthen of a terrible tempeſt, which from theſe womens Diuelliſh deuiſes fell vpon him, hee neyther ſuſpecting nor vnderſtanding the ſame: By this time both himſelfe and his honourable Counteſſe, are many times ſubiect to ſickneſſe and extraordinary conuulſions, which they taking as gentle corrections from the hand of God, ſubmit with quietneſſe to his mercy, and ſtudy nothing more, then to glorifie their Creator in heauen, and beare his croſſes on earth.

At laſt, as malice increaſed in theſe damnable Women; ſo his family felt the ſmart of their reuenge and inficious diſpoſition. For his eldeſt Sonne *Henry* Lord

Roſſe

Rosse sickned very strangely, and after a while dyed: his next named *Francis* Lord *Rosse* accordingly, was seuerely torméted by them, and most barbarously and inhumanely tortured by a strange sicknesse: not long after the Lady *Katherine* was set vpon by their dangerous and diuellish practises, and many times in great danger of life, through extreame maladies and vnusuall fits. Nay (as it should seeme, and they afterwards confessed) both the Earle and his Countesse were brought into their snares as they imagined, and indeed determined to keepe them from hauing any more children. Oh vnheard of wickednesse and mischieuous damnation! Notwithstanding all this did the noble Earle attend his Maiesty, both at New-market before Christmas, and at Christmas at Whitehall; bearing the losse of his Children most nobly, and little suspecting that they had miscarryed by Witch-craft, or such like inuentions of the Diuell, vntill it pleased God to discouer the villanous practises of these bad Women, and to command the Diuell

from executing any further vengeance on innocents, but leaue them to their shames, and the hands of Iustice, that they might not onely be confounded for their villanous practises, but remaine as a notorious example to all ages of his iudgement and fury. Thus were they apprehended about Christmas, and carryed to Lincolne layle, after due examination before sufficient Iustices of the Peace, and discreete Magistrates, who wondred at their audacious wickednesse: but *Ioan Flower* the mother, before conuiction, (as they say) called for Bread and Butter, and wished it might neuer goe through her if she were guilty of that whereupon shee was examined; so mumbling it in her mouth, neuer spake more words after, but fell downe and dyed as shee was carryed to Lincolne layle, with an horrible excrutiation of soule and body, and was buryed at Ancaster.

When the Earle heard of their apprehensions, he hasted downe with his Brother S^r *George*, and sometimes examining them himselfe, and sometimes sending them to others;

at

at laſt left them to the trial of Law, before the Iudges of Aſſize at Lincolne; & ſo they were conuicted of murther, and executed accordingly, about the 11. of March, to the terror of all the beholders, and example of ſuch diſſolute and abhominable Creatures: and becauſe you ſhall haue both cauſe to glorifie God for this diſcouery, and occaſion to apprehend the ſtrangeneſſe of their liues, and truth of their proceedings: I thought it both meet and conuenient to lay open their owne Examinations and Euidences againſt one another, with ſuch apparant Circumſtances as doe not onely ſhew the cauſe of their miſlike and diſtaſting againſt the Earle and his family; but the manner of their proceedings and reuenges, with other particulars belonging to the true and plaine diſcouery of their villany and Witchcraft.

The

The Examinations of

Anne Baker, Joane Willimot,
and *Ellen Greene*, as
followeth, &c.

Anne Baker, *Ioane Willimot.* *Ellen Greene.*

The

THE EXAMINATION

of *Anne Baker* of *Bottesford* in the County of *Leicester Spinster*, taken *March* 1. 1618. by the Right Honorable *Francis* Earle of *Rutland*, Sir *George Manners* Knight, two of his Maiesties Iustices of the Peace for the County of *Lincolne*: and *Samuel Fleming* Doctor of Diuinitie, one of his Maiesties Iustices of the Peace for the County of *Leicester* aforesaid.

SHE *saith, that there are foure colours of Planets, Blacke, Yellow, Greene, and Blew: and that Blacke is alwayes Death: and that shee saw the Blew Planet strike* Thomas Fayrebarne, *the eldest Sonne vnto* William Fayrebarne *of* Bottes-

Bottesford *aforeſaid by the* Pinfold *there, within the which time the ſaid* William Fairebarne *did beat her and breake her head, whereuppon the ſaid* Thomas Fairebarne, *did mend. And being asked who did ſend that Planet? anſwered it was not I.*

Further ſhee ſaith, that ſhee ſaw a hand appeare vnto her, and that ſhee heard a voyce in the ayre ſaid vnto her: Anne Baker, *ſaue thy ſelfe, for to morrow thou and thy maiſter muſt be ſlaine: and the next day her maiſter and ſhee were in a Cart together; and ſuddainely ſhee ſaw a flaſh of fire, and ſaid her prayers, and the fire went away, and ſhortly after a Crow came and picked vpon her cloathes, and ſhee ſaid her prayers againe, and bad the Crow go to whom he was ſent, and the Crow went vnto her Maiſter, and did beat him to death, and ſhee with her prayers recouered him to life; but hee was ſicke a fortnight after, and ſaith, that if ſhee had not had more knowledge then her maiſter, both he and ſhee and all the Cattell had beene ſlaine.*

Being examined concerning a Childe of Anne Stannidge, *which ſhee was ſuſpected to haue bewitched*

witched to death; ſaith, the ſaid Anne Stannidge did deliuer her childe into her hands, and that ſhee did lay it vpon her skirt, but did no harme vnto it; And being charged by the Mother of the childe, that vpon the burning of the haire and the paring of the nailes of the ſaid childe, the ſaid Anne Baker came in and ſet her downe, and for one houres ſpace could ſpeake nothing; confeſſeth ſhee came into the houſe of the ſaid Anne Stannidge in great paine, but did not know of the burning of the haire and nailes of the ſaid Childe; but ſaid ſhe was ſo ſicke that ſhe did not know whither ſhe went.

Being charged that ſhee bewitched Elizabeth Hough, the wife of William Hough to death, for that ſhee angred her in giuing her almes of her ſecond bread; confeſſeth that ſhe was angry with her and ſaid ſhe might haue giuen her of her better bread, for ſhe had gone too often on her errands, but more ſhe ſaith not.

This Examinat confeſſeth that ſhee came to Ioane Gylles houſe, her child being ſicke, and that ſhee intreated this Examinat to look on the Child, and to tell her whether it was forſpoken or no, and

this Examinate said it was forspoken; but when the said child died she cannot tell.

And being asked concerning Nortley carrying of his Child home vnto his owne house, where the said Anne Baker was, shee asked him, who gaue the said Child that loafe, he told her Anthony Gill, to whom this Examinate said, he might haue had a Child of his owne if hee would haue sought in time for it; which words she confessed shee did speake.

Being blamed by Henry Milles in this sort: A fire set on you, I haue had two or three ill nights; to whom shee made answere, you should haue let me alone then, which shee confesseth.

The said Anne Baker, March 2. 1618. confessed before Samuel Fleming Doctor of Diuinitie, that about 3. yeares agoe, shee went into Northamptonshire, and that at her comming back againe, one Peakes wife and Dennis his wife of Beluoyre told her that my young Lord Henry was dead, and that there was a gloue of the said Lord buried in the ground; and as that gloue did rot and wast, so did the liuer of the said Lord rot and wast.

Further

Further ſhee ſaid, March 3. 1618. *before* S^r. George Manners *Knight, and* Samuel Fleming *Doctor of Diuinity, that ſhee hath a Spirit which hath the ſhape of a white Dogge, which ſhee calleth her good Spirit.*

Samuel Fleming *teſt.*

The Examination of *Ioan Willimot*, taken the 28. of *February*, in the 16. yeare of the raigne of our Soueraigne Lord IAMES, ouer *England* King, &c. and ouer *Scotland* the 52. before *Alexander Amcots* Eſquire, one of his Maieſties Iuſtices of the Peace of the ſaid parts and County.

THis Examinat ſaith, that *Ioane Flower* told her that my Lord of *Rutland* had dealt badly with her and that they had put away her Daughter, and that although ſhe could not haue her will of my Lord himſelfe, yet ſhe had ſpied my Lords Sonne and had ſtricken him to the heart. And ſhe ſaith, that my Lords Sonne was ſtriken with a white Spirit, and that ſhee can cure ſome that ſend vnto her, and that ſome reward her for her paines, and of ſome ſhe taketh nothing.

The

She further ſaith, that vpon Fryday night laſt, her Spirit came to her and told her that there was a bad woman at *Deeping* who had giuen her ſoule to the Diuell: and that her ſaid Spirit did then appeare vnto her in a more vgly forme then it had formerly done, and that it vrged her much to giue it ſomething, although it were but a peece of her Girdle, and told her that it had taken great paines for her, but ſhe ſaith that ſhe would giue it nothing, and told it that ſhe had ſent it to no place but onely to ſee how my Lord *Roſſe* did, and that her Spirit told her that he ſhould doe well.

The

The Examination of the ſaid *Ioan Willimott*, taken the ſecond day of *March* in the yeare aboueſaid, before the ſaid *Alexander Amcots*.

THis Examinate ſaith, That ſhee hath a Spirit which ſhee calleth *Pretty*, which was giuen vnto her by *William Berry* of *Langbolme* in *Rutlandſhire*, whom ſhe ſerued three yeares; and that her Maſter when hee gaue it vnto her, willed her to open her mouth, and hee would blow into her a Fairy which ſhould doe her good; and that ſhee opened her mouth, and he did blow into her mouth; and that preſently after his blowing, there came out of her mouth a Spirit, which ſtood vpon the ground in the ſhape and forme of a Woman, which Spirit did aske of her her Soule, which ſhee then promiſed vnto it, being willed thereunto by her Maſter. Shee further confeſſeth, that ſhee neuer hurt any body, but did helpe diuers that ſent for her, which

which were ſtricken or fore-ſpoken: and that her Spirit came weekely to her, and would tell her of diuers perſons that were ſtricken and foreſpoken. And ſhee ſaith, that the vſe which ſhee had of the Spirit, was to know how thoſe did which ſhee had vndertaken to amend; and that ſhee did helpe them by certaine prayers which ſhe vſed, and not by her owne Spirit; neyther did ſhe imploy her Spirit in any thing, but onely to bring word how thoſe did which ſhe had vndertaken to cure.

And ſhee further ſaith, that her Spirit came vnto her this laſt night (as ſhe thought) in the forme of a woman, mumbling, but ſhe could not vnderſtand what it ſaid. And being aſked whether ſhee were not in a dreame or ſlumber when ſhee thought ſhee ſaw it, ſhee ſaid no, and that ſhe was as waking as at this preſent.

Alexander Ameots.
Thomas Robinſon teſt.

The

The Examination of *Ioane Willimot* of *Goadby* in the County of *Leicester* Widdow, taken the 17. of *March*, 1618 by Sir *Henry Hastings* Knight, and *Samuel Fleming* Doctor of Diuinitie, two of his Maiesties Iustices of the Peace of the said County of *Leicester*.

SHe saith that she tould one *Cookes* wife of *Stathorne* in the said County Labourer, that *Iohn Patchett* might haue had his Child aliue, if he would haue sought forth for it in time, and if it were not death stricken in her wayes and that *Patchets* wife had an euill thing within her, which should make an end of her, and that she knew by her Girdle.

She saith further, that *Gamaliel Greete* of *Waltham* in the said County Shepheard, had a Spirit like a white Mouse put into him in

in his ſwearing; and that if hee did looke vpon any thing with an intent to hurt, it ſhould be hurt, and that hee had a marke on his left arme, which was cut away; and that her own ſpirit did tell her all this before it went from her.

Further ſhe ſaith, that *Ioane Flower*, *Margaret Flower* and ſhee, did meet about a weeke before *Ioane Flowers* apprehenſion, in *Blackborrow hill*, and went from thence home to the ſaid *Ioan Flowers* houſe, and there ſhe ſaw two ſpirits, one like a Rat, and the other like an Owle; and one of them did ſucke vnder her right eare, as ſhee thought: and the ſaid *Ioan* told her, that her ſpirits did ſay that ſhee ſhould neyther be hanged nor burnt.

Further ſhe ſaith, that the ſaid *Ioan Flower* did take vp ſome earth and ſpet vpon it, and did worke it with her finger, and put it vp into her purſe, and ſaid though ſhee could not hurt the Lord himſelfe, yet ſhee had ſped his Sonne, which isdead.

H. Haſtings.
Samuel Fleming.

The Examination of *Ellen Greene* of *Stathorne* in the County of *Leicester*, taken the 17. of *March* 1618. by Sir *Henry Hastings* Kt: and *Samuel Fleming* D. of Diuinitie, two of his Maiesties Iustices of the Peace of his said County.

SHee saith, that one *Ioan Willimot* of *Goadby* came about sixe yeares since to her in the Wowlds, and perswaded this Examinate to forsake God, and betake her to the diuel, and she would giue her two spirits, to which shee gaue her consent, and thereupon the said *Ioan Willimot* called two spirits, one in the likenesse of a Kitlin, and the other of a Moldiwarp the first the said *Willimot* called *pusse*, the other *hiffe*, *hiffe*, and they presently came to her, & she departing left them with this Examinate, and they leapt on her shoulder, and the kitlin suckt vnder her righ eareon her neck, & the Moldiwarp on the lfteside in the like place.

After

After they had ſuckt her, ſhee ſent the Kitlin to a Baker of that Towne, whoſe name ſhee remembers not, who had called her Witch & ſtricken her; and bad her ſaid ſpirit goe and bewitch him to death: the Moldiwarpe ſhee then bad go to *Anne Dawſe* of the ſame towne and bewitch her to death, becauſe ſhe had called this examinate witch, whore, jade, &c. and within one fortnight after they both dyed.

And further this Examinate ſaith, that ſhe ſent both her ſpirits to *Stonesby*, to one *Williſon* a husbandman, & *Robert Williman* a husbandmans ſonne, and bad the Kitlin goe to *Williſon* and bewitch him to death, and the Moldywarp to the other, and bewitch him to death, which they did; and within tenne dayes they dyed. Theſe foure were bewitched while this Examinate dwelt at *Waltham* aforeſaid.

About three yeares ſince, this Examinate remoued thence to *Stathorne*, where ſhe now dwelt: vpon a difference betweene the ſaid *Willimot* and the wife of *Iohn Patchet* of the ſaid *Stathorne* Yeoman, ſhee the ſaid *Willimot* called her this Examinate to goe and touch

the ſaid *Iohn Patchets* Wife and her Childe, which ſhee did, touching the ſaid *Iohn Patchets* wife in her bed, and the childe in the Grace-wifes armes, and then ſent her ſaid ſpirits to bewitch them to death, which they did, and ſo the woman lay languiſhing by the ſpace of a moneth and more, for then ſhee dyed; the childe dyed the next day after ſhe touched it.

And ſhee further ſaith, that the ſaid *Ioane Willimot* had a ſpirit ſucking on her, vnder the left flanke, in the likeneſſe of a little white Dogge, which this Examinate ſaith, that ſhe ſaw the ſame ſucking in Barley-harueſt laſt, being then at the houſe of the ſaid *Ioan Willimot*.

And for her ſelfe, this Examinate further ſaith, that ſhee gaue her ſoule to the Diuell to haue theſe ſpirits at her command; for a confirmation whereof, ſhe ſuffered them to ſuck her alwayes as aforeſaid about the change and full of the Moone.

H. Haſtings.
Samuel Fleming.

The

The Examination of *Phillip Flower*, Sister of *Margaret Flower*, and Daughters of *Ioane Flower*, before Sr *William Pelham*, and Mr *Butler*, Iustices of the Peace, *Febr.* 4. 1618. Which was brought in at the Assizes as euidence against her Sister *Margaret*.

SHe saith, that her mother and her sister maliced the Earle of *Rutland*, his Countesse, and their Children, because her Sister *Margaret*, was put out of the Ladies seruice of Laundry, and exempted from other seruices about the house, wherevpon her said sister, by the commandement of her mother, brought from the Castle the right hand gloue of the Lord *Henry Rosse*, which she deliuered to her Mother; who presently rubd it on the backe of her Spirit *Rutterkin*, and then put it into hot boyling water, afterward shee pricked it often, and buried it in the yard, wishing the Lord *Rosse* might neuer thriue, and so her Sister *Margaret* continued with her mother, where shee often saw the cat *Rutterkin* leape on her shoulder, and sucke her necke.

Shee further confessed, that shee heard her mother often curse the Earle and his Lady, and therevpon would boyle feathers and blood together, vsing many Diuellish speeches and strange gestures.

The

The Examination of *Margaret Flower*, Siſter of *Phillip Flower &c.* about the 22. of *Ianuary*. 1618.

SHe ſaith and confeſſeth, that about foure or fiue yeare ſince her Mother ſent her for the right hand gloue of *Henry* Lord *Roſſe*, afterward that her mother bade her goe againe into the Caſtle of *Beauer*, and bring downe the gloue or ſome other thing of *Henry* Lord *Roſſe*, and ſhee askt what to doe? Her Mother replyed to hurt my Lord *Roſſe*: whereupon ſhe brought downe a gloue, and deliuered the ſame to her Mother, who ſtroked *Rutterkin* her Cat with it, after it was dipt in hot water, and ſo prickt it often, after which *Henry* Lord *Roſſe* fell ſicke within a weeke, and was much tormented with the ſame.

She further ſaith, that finding a gloue about two or three yeares ſince of *Francis* Lord *Roſſe*, on a dung hill, ſhe deliuered it to her mother, who put it into hot water, and after tooke it out and rubd it on *Rutterkin* the Cat, and bad him goe vpwards, and after her mother buried it in the yard, and ſaid a miſchiefe light on him, but he will mend againe.

Shee further ſaith, that her Mother and ſhee, and her Siſter agreed together to bewitch the Earle and his Lady, that they might haue no more children: and being demanded the cauſe of this their mallice and ill will; ſhee ſaith, that about foure yeares ſince the

the Counteſſe (growing into ſome miſlike with her) gaue her forty ſhillings, a bolſter, & a mattreſſe, and bad her lye at home, and come no more to dwell at the Caſtle; which ſhe not onely tooke in ill part, but grudged at it exceedingly, ſwearing in her heart to be reuenged. After this, her Mother complained to the Earle againſt one *Peake*, who had offered her ſome wrong, wherein ſhe conceiued that the Earle tooke not her part, as ſhee expected, which diſlike with the reſt, exaſperated her diſpleaſure againſt him, and ſo ſhe watched an opportunity to bee reuenged: whereupon ſhe tooke wooll out of the ſaid mattreſſe, and a paire of gloues, which were giuen her by Mr. *Vauaſor*, and put them into warme water, mingling them with ſome blood, and ſtirring it together, then ſhe tooke the wooll and gloues out of the water, and rubd them on the belly of *Rutterkin* her Cat, ſaying the Lord and the Lady ſhould haue more Children, but it would be long firſt.

Shee further confeſſeth, that by her mothers commandement, ſhee brought to her a peece of a handkercher of the Lady *Katherine* the Earles daughter, and her mother put it into hot water, & then taking it out, rubd it on *Rutterkin*, bidding him flye, and go; whereupon *Rutterkin* whined and cryed Mew: whereupon ſhee ſaid, that *Rutterkin* had no power ouer the Lady *Katherine* to hurt her.

The

The Examination of *Phillip Flower*, the 25. of *February*, 1618. before *Francis* Earle of Rutland, *Francis* Lord *Willoughby* of Ersby, Sr. *George Manners*, and Sr. *William Pelham*.

SHee confesseth and saith, that shee hath a Spirit sucking on her in the forme of a white Rat, which keepeth her left breast, and hath so done for three or foure yeares, and concerning the agreement betwixt her Spirit and her selfe, she confesseth and saith, that when it came first vnto her, shee gaue her Soule to it, and it promised to doe her good, and cause *Thomas Simpson* to loue her, if shee would suffer it to sucke her, which shee agreed vnto; and so the last time it suckt was on Tuesday at night, the 23. of *February*.

The

The Examination of *Margaret Flower*, at the ſame time,&c.

SHee confeſſeth, that ſhe hath two familiar Spirits ſucking on her, the one white, the other black-ſpotted; the white ſucked vnder her left breſt, and the blacke ſpotted within the inward parts of her ſecrets. When ſhee firſt entertained them ſhe promiſed them her ſoule, and they couenanted to doe all things which ſhe commanded them,&c.

Shee further ſaith, that about the 30. of *Ianuary*, laſt paſt, being Saturday, foure Diuells appeared vnto her in *Lincolne* layle, at eleauen or twelue a clocke at midnight: The one ſtood at her beds feete, with a blacke head like an Ape, and ſpake vnto her; but what, ſhee cannot well remember, at which ſhee was very angry becauſe hee would ſpeake no plainer, or let her vnderſtand his meaning: the other three were *Rutterkin*, *Little Robin*, and *Spirit*; but ſhee neuer miſtruſted them, nor ſuſpected her ſelfe, till then.

There is another Examination of the ſaid *Margaret Flower*, taken the fourth of *February*, 1618. tending to this effect.

THat being asked what ſhee knoweth concerning the bewitching of the Earle of Rutland, his wife, and children, ſhee ſaith, that it is

true, that her ſelfe, her mother, and ſiſter were all diſ pleaſed with him, eſpecially with the Counteſſe, for turning her out of ſeruice, whereupon ſome foure yeare ſince, her mother commanded her to goe vp to the Caſtle, and bring her the right hand gloue of the Lord *Henry Roſſe*, the Earles eldeſt ſonne; which gloue ſhe found on the ruſhes in the Nurcery, and deliuered the ſame to her Mother, who put it into hot water, prickt it often with her kniſe, then tooke it out of the water, and rubd it vpon *Rutterkin*, bidding him height and goe, and doe ſome hurt to *Henry* Lord *Roſſe*, whereupon hee fell ſicke, and ſhortly after dyed, which her Mother hearing of, ſaid it was well: but after ſhee had rubd the gloue on the Spirit *Rutterkin*, ſhee threw it into the fire and burnt it, &c.

THeſe Examinations and ſome others were taken and charily preſerued for the contriuing of ſufficient euidences againſt them, and when the Iudges of Aſſiſe came downe to Lincolne about the firſt weeke of *March*, being Sr. *Henry Hobert*, Lord chiefe Iuſtice of the Common Pleas, and Sr. *Ed: Bromley* one of the Barons of the Exchequer, they were preſented vnto them, who not only wondred at the wickedneſſe of theſe perſons, but were amazed at their practiſes and horrible contracts with the Diuel to damne their own ſoules: And although the Right Honorable Earle had ſufficient griefe for the loſſe of his Children; yet no doubt

doubt it was the greater to consider the manner, and how it pleased God to inflict on him such a fashion of visitation: Besides, as it amazed the hearers to vnderstand the particulars, and the circumstances of this diuellish contract, so was it as wonderfull to see their desperate impenitency, and horrible distraction, according to the rest of that sort, exclaiming against the Diuell for deluding them, and now breaking promise with them, when they stood in most need of his helpe.

Notwithstanding all these aggrauations, such was the vnparalleld magnanimity, wisedome, and patience of this generous Noble-man, that hee vrged nothing against them more then their owne confessions, and so quietly left them to iudiciall triall, desiring of God mercy for their soules, and of men charity to censure them in their condemnation: but God is not mocked, and so gaue them ouer to iudgement, nor man so reformed, but for the Earles sake, they cursed them to that place which they themselues long before had bargained for.

What now remaines (gentle Reader) but for thee to make vse of so wonderfull a Story, and remarkable an accident, out of which, to draw to a conclusion, thou maist collect these particulars. First, that God is the supreame commander of all things, and permitteth wonderfull actions in the World, for the tryall of the godly, the punishment of the wicked, and his owne glory: of which man shall neuer attaine to know the reason or occasion. Secondly, that the Diuell is the meere seruant and

agent of God, to prosecute whatsoeuer hee shall command rather then giue leaue vnto; limiting him yet thus farre in his owne nature, that he can go no further then the bounds within which hee is hedged. Thirdly, that this God hath punishments, *ad correctionem*, that is to say, chasticements of the godly, *& ad ruinam, Videlicet*, Iudgements against the wicked, wherein yet man must disclaime any knowledge, and forsake preiudicate opinions. For the very iust shall be tried like gold, and no man exempted from castigation whom God doth loue. Fourthly, that this Diuell, though he bee Gods Instrument, yet worketh altogether by deceit: for as hee was a lyer from the beginning; so let no man trust him, because he aymeth at the confusion of all Mankinde. Fiftly, that the wicked, (howeuer they may thriue and prosper for a time) yet in the end are sure to be payed home, either with punishment in this life or in the life to come, or both, as a finall reward of monstrous impiety. Sixtly, that Man in his frailty must not presume of prosperity; but prepare a kinde of stooping vnder the hand of God, when it pleaseth him to strike or punish vs. Seauenthly, that there is no murmuring nor repining against God, but quietly to tolerate his inflictings, whensoeuer they chance, of which this worthy Earle is a memorable example to all men and Ages. Eightly, that the punishments of the wicked are so many warnings to all irregular sinners to amend their liues, and auoid the iudgement to come, by penitency and newnesse of life. Ninthly, that though

though man could bee content to passe ouer blasphemies and offences against the Statutes of Princes, yet God will ouertake them in their own walks, and pull them backe by the sleeue into a slaughter-house, as here you know the euidences against these people tooke life and power from their owne Confessions. Tenthly, and last of all, that priuate opinion cannot preuaile against publique censures: for here you see the learned and religious Iudges cryed out with our Sauiour, *Ex ore tuo.* Therefore though it were so, that neither Witch nor Diuell could doe these things, yet *Let not a Witch liue*, saith God, and *Let them dye* (saith the Law of England) *that haue conuersation with spirits, and presume to blaspheme the name of God with spels and incantation.* O then you sonnes of men, take warning by these examples, and eyther diuert your steps from the broad way of destruction, and inrecouerable gulph of damnation, or with *Iosuahs* counsell to *Achan*, blesse God for the discouery of wickednesse, and take thy death patiently, as the preuention of thy future iudgement, and sauing innocents from punishment, who otherwise may be suspected without a cause.

Vtinam tam facile vera inuenire possem, quam falsa conuincere.

FINIS.